<u>Testimony before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee</u> <u>Testimony of William DeVane Logue</u> Education Arbitration Board

Good day, Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Bill Logue. I am pleased and honored to appear before you today and to have been re-nominated by Governor Malloy to the Department of Education Panel of Impartial Arbitrators. I deeply appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to express my desire for reappointment and to answer any questions you may have. I look forward to serving the public interest should I be reappointed. For almost 30 years I have devoted my career to the practice, instruction and study of conflict resolution. I live in West Hartford where my three children graduated from the public schools.

I was born in New Haven and although I moved away before I was five, many extended family members caused me to maintain ties to the state until 1982 when I returned full time to attend law school at UConn. After graduation in 1985, I briefly practiced law before joining a private dispute resolution firm where I helped form panels of mediators and arbitrators, arranged mediations and arbitrations and occasionally mediated matters. From 1990 through 1994 I had the honor, and privilege, of working with Senior US District Judge Robert C. Zampano who was the designated settlement judge for the District of Connecticut. In that position I was responsible for assisting Judge Zampano in resolving the variety of matters that were referred to him by other members of the Connecticut Federal bench.

In 1994 I established an independent practice as a neutral, trainer and consultant to individuals, groups, associations, corporations, law firms, foundations and public organizations. I have assisted parties in resolving a wide range of matters including employment, workplace, collective bargaining, commercial, construction, family business and other matters. In the public policy arena I have facilitated environmental, child welfare and human service issues here in Connecticut and in Massachusetts and New York. I currently serve on the Department of Education's Mediation Panel, the US Postal Service REDRESS Mediation Panel and several other panels.

In the academic, public and corporate settings I have been a teacher and trainer of mediation, conflict management, and negotiation skills. As part of my consulting practice I advise foundations, nonprofits and public clients on program feasibility, design and evaluation.

Over the years I have had the privilege of serving on a number of boards and committees. Most relevant to this appointment are service with the Connecticut Bar Association where I am past chair of the Dispute Resolution Section and past co-chair of the Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution in the Courts. I also serve as chair of the Connecticut Bar Foundation James Cooper Fellows and was recently elected as a Fellow of the American Bar Association.

My career has been devoted to impartial work with the goal of achieving solutions that benefit all parties. Over the years I have become accustomed to taking on difficult issues with humor, humility and, I hope, grace under pressure. I appreciate your consideration and hope you will allow me to serve the citizens of Connecticut. I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have.